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POEM

**KEROUAC NEVER DROVE,
SO HE NEVER DROVE ALONE**

you're born alone,
you die alone, you
pull into a truck-
stop in Gallup alone
where every trucker
looks like the devil.
like pictures of the
devil. like they'd
kill you worse than
cops or buy you a
beer, two beers, if
they knew what you
were thinking. about
their looking like
the devil or kill-
ing you or buying
you beers. but no
beer at this stop
so it's only devil,
killing . . .

—Richard Meltzer

Richard Meltzer's 1972 book of random cultural observations/ destructions, Gulcher, has been republished by Citadel Press. Meltzer will sign it and read at Book Soup, 8818 W. Sunset Blvd., Hlywd.; Fri., March 1, 7-8:30 p.m. (213) 659-3110.

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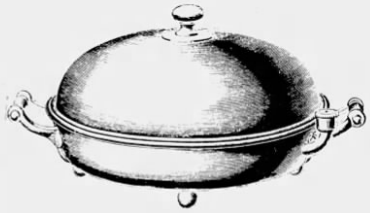

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